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LETTER DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF PAKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to append herewith the text of a statement adopted today by the Contact Group of the States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on Bosnia and Herzegovina (see annex).

I shall be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jamsheed K. A. MARKER
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement on Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted at United Nations Headquarters on 22 September 1994 by the Contact Group of the States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference

The members of the Contact Group of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) on Bosnia and Herzegovina strongly deplore and condemn the Bosnian Serb party for its refusal to accept the map proposed by the five-nation Contact Group, as well as its continued campaign to consolidate territory seized by the use of force, ethnic cleansing and genocide.

They are deeply concerned at the continuing violations by the Serbs of "safe areas", "exclusion zones" and the "no-fly zone". In that context, they express deep alarm at the reported large-scale helicopter flights between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and Serb-held territories in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Recent reports indicate that such unauthorized flights may have delivered large quantities of military supplies to the Bosnian Serbs in gross violation of relevant Security Council resolutions. Such incidents belie the claims of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) authorities of having closed its borders with the Bosnian territories occupied by the Bosnian Serbs and demonstrates the inadequacy and lack of effectiveness of the international monitors deployed up to the present time.

The members of the OIC Contact Group are deeply concerned at the lack of appropriate response by the international community, particularly by the Security Council and the member States of the European Contact Group, to this situation. They recall that the European Contact Group had committed itself to a series of steps, including tightening of the sanctions regime against Serbia and Montenegro, expanding the exclusion zones in Bosnia and Herzegovina and taking appropriate steps towards lifting the defacto arms embargo on the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The members of the OIC Contact Group believe that the failure of the European Contact Group members to honour their commitments would further encourage and embolden the aggressor to continue to defy the will of the international community with impunity.

The members of the OIC Contact Group strongly condemn the accelerated campaign of ethnic cleansing by the Bosnian Serbs, the most recent examples of which are Banja Luka, Bijeljina and Prejedor, and their intensified stranglehold on many Bosnian towns, including the capital Sarajevo, which are designated "safe areas" by the Security Council.

The members of the OIC Contact Group believe that the international community cannot, in good conscience and judgement, ease sanctions on Serbia and Montenegro without first taking concrete steps to reverse the consequences of aggression against and occupation of the territories of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Under the present circumstances, easing of sanctions on Serbia and Montenegro would be nothing less than rewarding the aggressor, undermining the peace process and sacrificing the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

The members of the OIC Contact Group express their disagreement with the approach to easing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) at the present juncture, which they regard as premature, unbalanced and counterproductive. In that regard, they appeal to the Security Council first to ascertain the views of the full membership of the United Nations through an open debate on the question of easing the sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) before taking action on such a draft resolution.